

BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of the Suspension or Revocation)
)
of the Educator Certificate of)
)
Ethel M. Chamblee,)
)
Certificate 062410)

**CONSENT ORDER
OF SUSPENSION**

SUMMARY OF THE CASE

The South Carolina State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on July 13, 2005. On June 28, 2005, the State Department of Education (Department) sent a notice of hearing regarding a possible certificate suspension or revocation on the grounds of test security violations to Ethel M. Chamblee Fields by certified mail, return receipt requested, delivery restricted to addressee. Ms. Chamblee requested a hearing but has now agreed to waive her right to a hearing and to accept the suspension of her certificate for a period commencing retroactively on May 27, 2005, through August 5, 2005. After considering the information presented by the Department, the State Board voted to suspend Ms. Chamblee's educator certificate for the agreed upon period of time.

Accepted:
Ethel M.
Chamblee
062410

Initial Here

Date: _____

FINDINGS OF FACT

Ethel M. Chamblee holds a valid South Carolina certificate and has over thirty-seven years of teaching experience. Ms. Chamblee is a retired teacher who was rehired by Spartanburg County School District Four (District) to teach three periods a day at Woodruff High School during the 2004-2005 school year. During the Spring 2005 administration of HSAP ELA (Grade 10) testing, Ms. Chamblee was observed writing on post-it notes while looking at the HSAP test booklets. When confronted about the notes, Ms. Chamblee apologized for her mistake and indicated that her intention was to better prepare herself to teach her

students, not to distribute the information in any way. The District issued Ms. Chamblee a written reprimand and restricted her from administering any state or district standardized tests in the future.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

"The State Board of Education may, for just cause, either revoke or suspend the certificate of any person." S.C. Code Ann. §59-25-150 (2004), S.C. Code Ann. §59-25-160 (2004); 24 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 43-58. Just cause includes test security violations. 24 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 43-100. The Board finds that the evidence presented supports its conclusion that just cause exists for the suspension of Ms. Chamblee's educator certificate. Accordingly, the Board issues this Consent Order of Suspension for the period May 27, 2005, through August 5, 2005. At the conclusion of the suspension period, Ms. Chamblee may make a written request to the Department's Office of Certification if she wishes to have her certificate reinstated.

South Carolina State Board of Education

/S/ Joe Isaac for Paul M. Forrester

Paul M. Forrester, Chair

Columbia, South Carolina

July 13, 2005

I, Ethel M. Chamblee, SC Educator Certificate 062410, do hereby agree to this Order of Suspension, consisting of two pages, and understand that this Order will be presented as signed to the State Board of Education on July 13, 2005.

/S/ Ethel M. Chamblee
Ethel M. Chamblee

7/05/05
Date